

The Eastern Michigan University Philosophy Speaker Series Presents the
2021-2022 Distinguished Speaker

A KANTIAN THEORY OF INTERSECTIONALITY

Sponsored by the Department of History & Philosophy and the
Department of Women's & Gender Studies



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Abstract: Kimberlé Crenshaw arrived at her famous phrase “intersectionality” by carefully thinking through speeches and writings given to us by early Black feminists, such as Sojourner Truth and Anna J. Cooper. In this paper, I expand on this groundbreaking work in two somewhat surprising ways. First, I bring the ideas of these early Black feminists together with important, related proposals from W.E.B. Du Bois, Karl Marx, Hannah Arendt, and Simone de Beauvoir. Second, I relate these works to central ideas in Kant’s practical philosophy in an effort to develop a Kantian theory of intersectionality. In addition to grasping the distinctive, destructive directions of oppressive forces aimed at women, the poor, and minorities, I seek to understand better the new, violently destructive elements found in European modernity, as evidenced both in European colonialization, Western state organized violence against the indigenous peoples on their shared territories, and the Holocaust.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

5:00-6:30 pm ET

ZOOM LINK:

<https://emich.zoom.us/j/86887491521>